

## Congressman Ryan Touts Manufacturing Growth in Valley; Economic Development Strategy Taking Hold

### *Youngstown MSA Leads U.S. with 8.9 Percent Growth in Manufacturing Employment*

(Washington, DC) – Today, Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17) praised the Brookings Institution's report tracing economic recession and recovery in the Great Lakes Region. According to the report, unemployment rates fell faster in Great Lakes metropolitan areas than in the nation and other large metropolitan areas. Further, a strong manufacturing base helped to increase the number of jobs in the Great Lakes region; the manufacturing sector also lent strength to the region's growth output in the second quarter 2010. Importantly, 86 percent of Great Lakes metropolitan areas added manufacturing jobs between the first and second quarters of 2010, with the Youngstown MSA's manufacturing employment growing by 8.9 percent – the largest gain in the United States. Manufacturing centers, including Youngstown, also experienced some of the biggest declines in unemployment between June 2009 and June 2010.

“This report puts solid numbers behind the groundswell of progress that we have seen over the past 18 months,” stated Congressman Ryan. “It’s simple – we make things in the Mahoning Valley, from custom steel to the new Chevy Cruze. And because of the efforts of Governor Strickland, Ohio ranks first in renewable and advanced energy manufacturing, with the sixth fastest-growing economy in the nation. Paired with the efforts of our local leaders to create a business-friendly climate that capitalizes on a highly-trained workforce, the Mahoning Valley is positioned to lead the United States out of this recession.”

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